

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : Not Yet Assigned
 First Named Inventor : Alexander FUCHS
 Filed : March 6, 2006
 TC/A.U. : Not Yet Assigned
 Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

Docket No. : 095309.57451US
 Customer No. : 23911

Title : Device and Method for Detecting a Momentary Distance
 Between a Motor Vehicle and an Obstacle

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 AND 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the attached Form PTO-1449 lists documents which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

I. Time Period of Submission

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

☒ 1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or 2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later) or 3) before a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination, and therefore no statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

☐ 2) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action closing prosecution (*Ex parte Quayle*), (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith:

☐ a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); or

☐ a fee in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

☐ 3) after either a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith:

a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); and

a fee in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

II. Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

☐ I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or

☐ I hereby state that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making a reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or

III. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)

☐ I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

IV. Submission of Non-English Language Documents

☒ The following is a concise explanation of relevance of the non-English language documents listed in the attached Form PTO-1449:

☒ The relevance of document(s) **AB-AE** and **AJ-AM** to the subject matter of the present invention is/are provided in the specification of the above-identified application.

☒ Corresponding foreign or international report(s) citing document(s) **AA**, **AB**, **AE-AJ**, and **AM**, together with an English-language version(s) (if not already in English) of that portion of the report(s) indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office(s) is/are submitted.

☐ English language family member publication(s) of document(s) _____ is/are noted on Form PTO-1449.

☐ English language abstract(s) is/are submitted for document(s)

☐ English translation(s) of the foreign language document(s)
_____ is/are submitted herewith.

☐ Applicant submits the following explanations:
_____.

V. Continuations/Divisionals

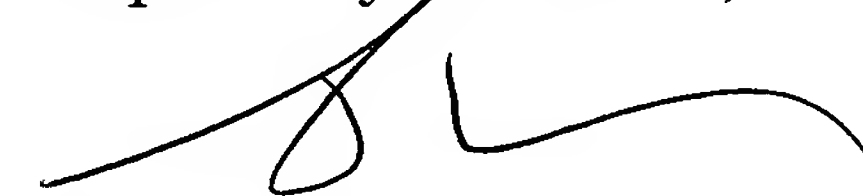
☐ Documents _____ were of record in parent application Serial No. _____, filed _____, from which this application claims benefit. As provided in 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the documents are not being provided since they were previously submitted to or cited by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the afore-mentioned parent application.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, this paper should be considered as an authorization to charge Deposit Account 05-1323, Attorney Docket No.: 095309.57451US, for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

Respectfully submitted,

March 6, 2006



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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	March 6, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Alexander FUCHS
				Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	095309.57451US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	AA	DE 43 33 357 A1	04-06-1995	Robert Bosch GmbH		
	AB	DE 101 49 146 A1	04-17-2003	Robert Bosch GmbH		
	AC	DE 198 47 013 A1	04-20-2000	Robert Bosch GmbH		
	AD	DE 199 01 847 A1	02-10-2000	Volkswagen AG		
	AE	DE 199 34 670 A1	12-21-2000	Robert Bosch GmbH		
	AF	DE 199 35 123 A1	03-09-2000	Toyota Jidosha K.K.		
	AG	DE 44 46 452 A1	06-29-1995	Fuji Jukogyo K.K.		
	AH	DE 43 33 357 A1	04-06-1995	Robert Bosch GmbH		
	AI	DE 38 30 790 A1	03-15-1990	Freund, Eckhard, Prof.		
	AJ	EP 1 318 491 A1	06-11-2003	Bayerische Motoren Werke Aktiengesellschaft		
	AK	WO 98/20364	05-14-1998	ITT Manufacturing Enterprises, Inc.		
	AL	WO 99/32318	07-01-1999	Bayerische Motoren Weke Aktiengesellschaft		
	AM	WO 03/064215A1	08-07-2003	Matsushita Electric Works, Ltd.		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	AN	International Search Report for PCT/EP2004/009382 dated December 22, 2004.	X
	AO	International Preliminary Report on Patentability for PCT/EP2004/009382 dated December 7, 2005.	X
	AP	German Search Report for German Patent Application No. 103 41 128.3 dated June 8, 2004.	X

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case.